

Roll, was considered, and the meeting was unanimous in its condemnation of legislation—as laid down in Section 6 (1) (b) Regulation of the Nurses' Act, 1943, whereby the Minister of Health (a layman) is empowered to place untrained and unqualified persons on the Assistant Nurses' Roll, and it was unanimously agreed that a letter strongly protesting against this clause and the request that, in the interests of the sick public, this dangerous Regulation be amended, was carried unanimously. The treasurer reported a very satisfactory balance-sheet and the meeting then closed.

NURSES' CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT.

At the Annual Meeting of the Nurses' Christian Movement, held on May 3rd, the annual report presented by the General Secretary, Miss L. Topping, S.R.N., showed great progress in the work, a ready welcome by matrons in hospitals throughout the country from Inverness in the North to Plymouth in the South, a growing membership, and a long list of hospital branches.

Miss Topping spoke of the keenness of the nurses in their meetings and the change which she could see in them as they came to know more of Jesus Christ.

The two Travelling Secretaries had similarly encouraging reports to give. Miss J. Matheson, S.R.N., spoke of the aim of the Movement, to unite nurses at home and overseas in a common bond of prayer; and Miss E. Lewis, S.R.N., told of her experiences in Manchester, both in her own hospital branch, and in the united meetings in which some 13 hospitals combined and were finding wonderful fellowship in the knowledge of the power of God.

The work overseas was represented by Miss Maud Budd, O.B.E., Matron of Mengo Hospital, Uganda, who spoke of the training of African nurses. The girls came at the age of 16, often with very elementary education. They came from mud huts and had no knowledge of such things as electric light or sterilisation or how to make a European bed. Yet they made excellent progress, and the best of them were equal to a good nurse at home. Miss Budd herself had been nursed by these African nurses after a serious operation, and she had no fault to find. Some of these African girls were doing excellent work in village out-stations, three were acting as sister tutors, others were in charge of wards, and in all these posts were having a very deep Christian influence.

Tributes to the work of Nurses were paid by the Chairman of the two sessions, Dr. Harold Balme, O.B.E., and Professor John Kirk, M.B., F.R.C.S., and by the two closing speakers, the Rev. Dr. Gilbert Russell and the Rev. B. R. K. Spaul, M.A. They all emphasised the great opportunities that nurses have for giving not only bodily but also spiritual help, and for restoring men and women to wholeness of life. All four speakers pointed to the one Source of power to meet the need—personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

We much regret we were unable to attend the Annual Meeting of the Nurses Christian Movement, which in the past as the Nurses Missionary League made a very special appeal to many nurses.

WHAT TO READ.

MEMOIRS AND BIOGRAPHY.

- "Left Hand, Right Hand." Sir Osbert Sitwell.
- "The Journal of Mary Hervey Russell." Storm Jameson.
- "In Search of Sensation." Theodore Felstead.
- "Grey Steel." A Study in Arrogance. H. C. Armstrong.
- "A Seventeenth-Century Gentleman: Sir Francis Throckmorton 1640-80." A. B. Barnard.

FICTION.

- "On the Side of the Angels." Betty Miller.
- "Tinsel Paradise." Edith Nepean.
- "The North Wind of Love." Book Two. Compton Mackenzie.
- "Korinska." Sonia Deane.
- "Sanctuary." Nora K. Strange.
- "Take What You Will." Lady Joan Verney.
- "Portrait of an Unknown Lady." John Brophy.
- "Royal Twilight." John Fitzgay.

MISCELLANEOUS.

- "From Virgil to Milton." C. M. Bowra.
- "Why Crime." Claud Mullins.
- "Books on Soviet Russia, 1917-1942." Philip Grierson.
- "Canada and the World To-morrow." Edited by Violet Anderson.
- "The Young Ambassadors." Angela Pelham.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENTS.

"*Hater of Patronage*" writes: "A friend is writing to tell you why we mean to dissociate ourselves from the Nursing Profession. It is simple: We absolutely decline to be patronised by ignorant lay persons any longer. Look at all the committees running the war nursing Services. What do these women and fussy persons, who have never done a day's hospital work in their lives, know of Nursing? Nothing. Who are the Browns and Bevins who make laws for us to obey, with their powerful Ministerial positions and £5,000 salaries? The only way to get out of their clutches is to give up nursing—it is no longer a profession—and take up other work. Thousands of nurses are needed—no wonder."


A new subscriber writes from a London hospital: 'I should like to make application to you to become a subscriber to your Journal.'

"In these difficult days it is most refreshing to read your excellent paper, and to be associated with the ideas and sentiments there expressed. The ethical basis of our so-called profession appears sometimes to be smothered by political aims. I have much appreciated reading your Journal (in the Royal College of Nursing Library), for it has given me renewed enthusiasm and vision."

[Such little letters are very gratifying.—ED.]

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